

Indiana House of Representatives

News and Information

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BISCHOFF'S VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER LEGISLATION PASSES OUT OF COMMITTEE

INDIANAPOLIS – State Rep. Bob Bischoff's (D-Lawrenceburg) legislation that offers a funding option for volunteer firefighter equipment passed out of the House Public Safety and Homeland Security Committee yesterday.

House Bill 1537 would add a space to the state's vehicle registration form where an optional monetary donation may be made to the fire services fund. The money collected would be used to purchase fire equipment for volunteer fire departments.

"Our volunteer firefighters provide an invaluable service to our community," said Bischoff, who is co-author of the bill. "It is our responsibility to furnish them with the equipment they need to safely protect our homes and families."

Presently, volunteer firefighters often do not have the necessary equipment needed to perform their protection services adequately. Bischoff's legislation would provide the opportunity for the public to help equip the firefighters who serve their community. The new space on the vehicle registration form where a monetary donation can be stipulated will be implemented July 1, 2005 if the bill is made law.

House Bill 1537 will now be sent to the floor of the Indiana House for consideration.